

QUILT SHOW: Variety of displays were featured at annual event

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pages carefully so spectators could see each unique quilt with its story told in calligraphy on the opposite page.

Men have been participating in Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show for more than 10 years. And the exhibit "Made by Men" displayed 27 quilts by male quilters.

Mike Denton, a quilter from Redmond, was on hand to talk about his love of quilting.

"I now have a long-arm business in Redmond sewing other people's quilts," Denton said.

He began quilting in 2009, the year he retired.

"I took my first two

classes at the Stitchin' Post and took to quilting like a duck to water," he said.

Denton has made many quilts for charitable causes.

Ellen Olson, a quilter from Ontario, Canada and her two friends, also from Canada, were having the time of their lives looking over every quilt they could possibly find.

"This is our first time in Sisters, and we love it. This show was on my bucket list," Olsen said laughing. "We've been here since yesterday and are trying to see everything in two days."

The weather was perfect — if hot — for the thousands of people that came from all 50 states and 27 foreign countries to see the spectacular display of quilts and as they meandered up and down the streets there were distractions of the musical kind.

The Silverado Quartet

drew a crowd while harmonizing in front of the entry-way to Sisters Drug & Gift.

"We're trying to raise money to go to Northwest Harmony College in Washington," singer Hope Bridges from Redmond told *The Nugget*. "We love singing music in the barbershop genre."

The quartet has been around since 2008 and sings for any occasion all around Central Oregon.

"Next Saturday we're singing for the Vietnam vets at a veteran's banquet," she added.

Quilter Ann Martin hosted the Quilting Activity Area in Melvin's Fir Street Market parking lot.

"The SOQS supplies us all the fabric blocks so the kids get to sew bean bags," Martin said.

Martin's daughter, Jill Martin, a 15-year-old student at Ridgeview High School in Redmond comes from a family of quilters and has been quilting for 11 years.

Jill had two quilts on display.

"I saw a Wizard of Oz quilt last year and decided to quilt one," she said. "I designed the pattern myself, and it wasn't easy."

Jill doesn't keep most of her quilts. She donates quilts

for fundraisers or gives them away to friends. Her brother Christopher quilts, and their dad cuts all the treads for the quilts.

Cascade Avenue was hopping with folks going in every direction while Sisters High School students Riley Reece and Julia Bowe strummed their ukuleles for anyone who'd listen.

"We love to play," said Reece. "We don't belong to any group, we just figure it out ourselves."

Many folks bought tickets for the 2017 Raffle Quilt, "A Story of Stars," designed and pieced by Susan Cobb and quilted by Laurie Simmons.

Cobb took her first and second quilting class in 2009 at the Stitchin' Post from Lawry Thorne.

"In those two classes I learned everything I needed to know as far as making

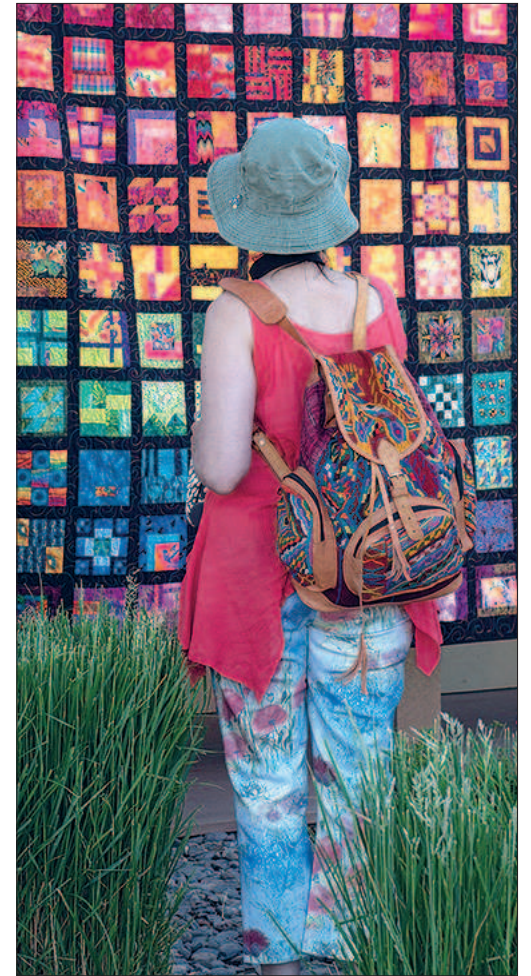


PHOTO BY GARY MILLER

Visitors absorbed all the color.

a quilt." Cobb said. "And in every class after that I have learned many new techniques."

Cobb is eclectic in her style: "I have a color sense that people recognize, and I

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PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A tribute book to past quilters was on display at The Open Door.

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